

Applicants : James G. Retzloff and Scott T. Franson
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REMARKS

The Examiner requires restriction between two groups of claims, namely Group I represented by Claims 1-22 and 29-46, and Group II represented by Claims 23-28. The Examiner states that Group I and Group II are related as combination and sub-combination. Furthermore, the Examiner states that the inventions are distinct because the combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the sub-combination as claimed and, further, that the sub-combination has separate utility. However, Applicants have inserted new claims, namely Claims 47-49, which are linking claims and which link the combination and sub-combination claims. Applicants respectfully submit that upon allowance of a linking claim, that the claims drawn to the sub-combination, namely claims 23-28 should be considered in the present application.

The Examiner further requires an election of a single cover plate species and a single housing species. Applicants have elected the housing species depicted in Figures 13 and 14 and the cover depicted in Figures 9-10. The claims readable thereon include Claims 1, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 29, 30, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, and newly added Claims 47-49.

The Examiner acknowledges that Claims 1, 13, 23, 29, and 38 are generic. Upon the allowance of a generic claim, Applicants will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species provided that they are written in dependent form or otherwise include the limitations of the allowed generic claim.

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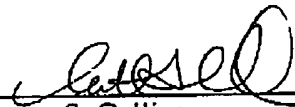
Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (616) 975-5506. An early and favorable action on the merits is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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SCOTT T. FRANSON

By: Van Dyke, Gardner, Linn and Burkhardt, LLP

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